

**COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION**  
**STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 8**  
**Columbia River Compact**  
**October 1, 2012**

Fisheries Under Consideration:	Treaty Indian Commercial Gillnet
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

*Management guidelines, allocations, and preseason run forecasts for the 2012 fall season were presented in Fall Fact Sheet #1, dated July 26, 2012.*

**STOCK STATUS**

- Fall Chinook passage at Bonneville Dam through September 30 totals 331,307 adults.
- Steelhead passage at Bonneville Dam through September 30 totals 209,379 fish.
- Coho passage at Bonneville Dam through September 30 totals 41,087 early stock adults. Late stock coho begin October 1.
- TAC has reviewed salmonid stock status weekly since August 27, and recently met today (October 1) to provide the following updates:
  - Fall Chinook: 299,200 URBs, 75,800 MCBs and 60,900 BPH to the Columbia River.
  - Upriver summer steelhead: 216,700, 192,000 Group A (35% wild) and 24,700 Group B (20% wild).
  - Columbia River coho: TAC reviewed adult passage at Bonneville Dam and updated the projection for early stock and maintained the preseason forecast for late stock coho at Bonneville Dam. TAC projections include 18,200 late stock coho at Bonneville Dam.

**TREATY FISHERIES**

- Treaty platform and hook and line fisheries have been ongoing since the beginning of the fall management period on August 1.
- Yakama Nation tributary fisheries are ongoing. Sales of fish caught from Yakama Nation tributary fisheries are allowed only for Yakama Nation enrolled members, and only when those areas are open under lawfully enacted Yakama Nation rules.
- The tribes have completed six weeks of commercial gillnet fisheries. Table 1 outlines the harvest through the end of the sixth opening.

Table 1. Preliminary Catch Estimate Through September 28										
Fishery	Dates	Nets	Total					Strays	Total Steelhead	Group B Steelhead
			Adult Chinook	Adult URB	Adult MCB	Adult Tule	Jack Catch			
Platform	8/1- 8/20		237	165	69	3	141	0	4,490	371
Gillnet #1	8/21-8/23	343	3,084	693	287	2,104	267	0	1,132	254
Gillnet #2	8/27-8/30	532	7,920	3,857	1,076	2,976	1,082	11	924	127
Gillnet #3	9/4-9/8	749	27,608	14,871	3,267	9,142	1,494	328	2,249	561
Gillnet #4	9/11-9/14	748	26,867	16,207	3,485	7,123	1,042	52	1,834	397
Gillnet #5	9/18-9/21	762	15,773	9,515	2,046	4,182	612	30	2,280	898
Gillnet #6	9/26-9/28	637	3,878	2,340	503	1,028	150	7	1,016	437
<b>Subtotal</b>			<b>85,367</b>	<b>47,648</b>	<b>10,733</b>	<b>26,558</b>	<b>4,788</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>13,925</b>	<b>3,045</b>

- Table 2 shows available impacts for this week's proposed fishery based on the current Group B steelhead run size projection. The tribes currently are reserving 50 B steelhead for late fall platform fisheries. At the current TAC B steelhead forecast, there are sufficient available fish for an opening this week.
- Table 3 shows the catch expectation this week's proposed fishery with two different assumptions of effort. In the past ten years, October effort has never been more than 477 nets in any week.

<b>Table 2. Inseason Group B Steelhead Run Size and Preliminary Catch Estimates</b>	
Run Size	24,700
Harvest Rate	15%
Allowed Catch	3,705
Estimated Catch (Through 9/28)	3,045
Late Fall Platforms	50
Total Catch	3,095
Harvest rate	12.5%
Remaining available	610

**Table 3. Catch Projection for Proposed Fishery.**

Fishery	Dates	Nets	Total Adult Chinook	Adult URB	Adult MCB	Adult Tule	Total Steelhead	Group B Steelhead
Gillnet #7	10/2-10/4	500	4,675	3,300	875	500	1,200	500

- The tribes propose the following fishery:

<b>2012 Fall Season Treaty Commercial Gillnet Fishery</b>	
Season:	6:00 AM Tuesday October 2 through 6:00 PM Thursday October 4 (2.5 days)
Area:	Zone 6
Gear:	Gill net only. 8 inch minimum mesh size.
Sanctuaries	Standard River mouth and dam sanctuaries for gillnet gear will be in place. The Spring Creek Hatchery sanctuary will be reduced to a 150 radius around the hatchery ladder.
Allowable Sales:	<b>Possession and commercial sales of gillnet caught fish from this opening can only occur after 12:00 p.m. (noon) on October 2.</b> Salmon, steelhead, shad, yellow perch, bass, walleye, catfish and carp may be sold or retained for subsistence. Sturgeon from the Bonneville Pool (38 to 54 inches fork length) and from The Dalles and John Day Pools (43 to 54 inches fork length) may be retained for subsistence purposes. Sales of fish caught during the open period may be sold after the period closes.
Additional Rules:	<b>24-hour</b> Quick Reporting Rule will be in effect for Washington buyers.

- Delaying possession and sales until noon on opening day will allow the states time to file the regulations.
- Tribal staff will monitor fisheries and report catches on a weekly basis. Net counts will be done each week to determine fishing effort.
- It also appears that there should be enough B steelhead available for the Yakama Nation to consider a commercial permit fishery in Drano Lake (mouth of Little White Salmon River).

### Future Hearings

- A Joint State/Compact Hearing is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday October 2 to review non-Indian commercial fisheries and consider modifying the recreational sturgeon fishery upstream of the Wauna powerlines, which is scheduled to re-open for retention October 20.